

Can you finish the second sentence below?

The man has grandchildren.
The man is a _____.

Here's a hint. The second sentence follows this sentence plan:

noun linking verb noun

Look at the second sentence above. The sentence is about the man. So *man* is the noun. The verb does not tell what the man does. It tells what the man *is*. Verbs that tell what a person, place, or thing is are called linking verbs. The words *am*, *is*, *are*, *was*, *were*, *seem*, and *become* can be linking verbs. The words *feel*, *smell*, *taste*, *look*, and *sound* can also be linking verbs. In the sentence above, the word *is* is the linking verb.

Look at the sentence plan again. If *man* is the noun and *is* is the linking verb, what kind of word is missing from the sentence? The sentence plan shows that a noun is missing. Can you name the noun?

The man is a *grandfather*.
noun linking verb noun

This card will give you practice with the noun-linking verb-noun sentence plan.

Look at the sentences below. Number your paper from 1 to 6. Write a word that best completes the noun-linking verb-noun sentence plan. Write that word next to the correct number on your paper.

- 1 Marie has children. Marie is a _____.
- 2 Sally has a mother. Sally is a _____.
- 3 Susan has a husband. Susan is a _____.
- 4 Ned has a wife. Ned is a _____.
- 5 Molly has grandchildren. Molly is a _____.
- 6 Greg has a sister. Greg is a _____.

Look at the pairs of sentences below. One of the sentences in each pair follows the noun-linking verb-noun plan. Number your paper from 7 to 12. Which sentence follows the plan? Write *a* or *b* next to the correct number on your paper.

- 7 a. Cesar was a pitcher. b. Cesar pitched fast.
- 8 a. Rita's dream came true. b. Rita became a singer.
- 9 a. Fred goes alone. b. Fred is a man.
- 10 a. Jane became a bookkeeper. b. Jane likes numbers.
- 11 a. Rick found a job. b. Rick is a carpenter.
- 12 a. Ann puts on costumes. b. Ann is a clown.

Mr. Fry works for a newspaper. He writes about places to eat. When Mr. Fry tells about the food served, he writes all his sentences the same way. He follows a sentence plan.

Pancakes are light.
Coffee is strong.

First he tells what the sentence is about. *Coffee* and *pancakes* are names of things. The name of a person, place, or thing is called a noun. *Coffee* and *pancakes* are nouns in the sentences above. The word *light* describes the pancakes. The word *strong* describes the coffee. *Light* and *strong* are adjectives. They describe nouns. How does Mr. Fry join the nouns and the adjectives? He uses linking verbs. Words such as *is*, *are*, *was*, *were*, *be*, *seem*, and *become* link nouns and adjectives. The words *smell*, *taste*, *feel*, *look*, and *sound* can also be linking verbs. When Mr. Fry makes a sentence, he follows this sentence plan:

noun linking verb adjective

This card will give you practice with the noun-linking verb-adjective sentence plan.

Look at the following group of words. Someone mixed up Mr. Fry's sentences. Number your paper from 1 to 6. Put each group of words in order. Follow

the sentence plan Mr. Fry always uses: noun-linking verb-adjective. Write the sentence next to the correct number on your paper.

- ① terrible food was
- ② good is duck
- ③ smells meat bad
- ④ sour pickles taste
- ⑤ spinach fresh looks
- ⑥ are great fish

Look at the sentences below. Mr. Fry wants each sentence to follow his sentence plan of noun-linking verb-adjective. After each sentence is a pair of words in **bold type**. Number your paper from 7 to 12. From the word pair, choose the word that fits the noun-linking verb-adjective plan. Write the word next to the correct number on your paper.

- ⑦ Tomatoes were _____. (**ripe, growing**)
- ⑧ Watermelon was _____. (**dripping, juicy**)
- ⑨ Biscuits were _____. (**hard, baking**)
- ⑩ Rice was _____. (**brown, steaming**)
- ⑪ Lemons were _____. (**rotting, bitter**)
- ⑫ Dessert was _____. (**strange, disappearing**)

Skill Builder Key Card

L E S S O N 149

- 1 Barbers cut hair.
- 2 Bakers bake breads.
- 3 Carpenters hammer nails.
- 4 Tailors sew buttonholes.
- 5 Bankers handle money.
- 6 Pilots fly planes.
- 7 Walt plays chess.
- 8 Children ride bicycles.
- 9 Flowers need sunshine.
- 10 Cats like fish.
- 11 Cory eats apples.
- 12 Grandma writes books.

SAMPLE

Skill Builder Key Card

KEYS TO N 150

- 1 mother
- 2 daughter
- 3 wife
- 4 husband
- 5 grandmother
- 6 brother
- 7 a
- 8 b
- 9 b
- 10 a
- 11 b
- 12 b

SAMPLE